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FTA news

FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA—CIO

Vol. VI. No. 12 June 15, 1946 Price 5 Cents

Rider Passes

As FTA News went to press, the House passed the anti-FTA rider to the NLRB appropriation bill robbing fruit and vegetable packing workers of the protection of the Wagner Act. The vote was 202 to 134.

The appropriation bill, which furnishes money for next year's operations of the NLRB, now goes to the Senate.

Start wiring your two Senators as soon as you read this. Get your neighbors, friends, fellow workers to wire also. Tell them: no riders to the NLRB appropriation bill. Fruit and vegetable workers are entitled to protection as much as any other workers.

Wire now—because YOU'RE NEXT IF THE RIDER PASSES THE SENATE!

Truman And Labor

With the violent attack on labor contained in his proposed anti-union bill (HR 6758), President Truman has broken with the policies of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt, both domestic and foreign.

Less than 24 hours after Roosevelt's death, President Truman pledged to the American people that he would sustain those policies and that the Democratic Party, under his leadership, would continue the course charted by FDR.

Today Truman, little more than a year after he became President, has set himself on a course which, if followed, can only lead to the same reactionary ends sought by the most bitter tory among the Republicans or the most stubborn bourbon among the polltax Democrats.

Look at the record. Three years ago, at the height of the war, FDR put forward his "Economic Bill of Rights" which would guarantee to workers the right to a job at decent wages, adequate security, national welfare and a fair break for all—including employers, little businessmen and farmers as well as workers.

At the height of the war, and in the midst of an anti-union hysteria brought on by a coal strike, FDR vetoed the Smith-Connally Act.

Three years later, while the country is not at war, President Truman seizes upon an anti-union hysteria he himself did much to promote to sponsor a bill that is aimed at the destruction of unions and the degradation of workers' standards of living.

Further, President Truman directly intervenes on the side of the employers in negotiations involving the welfare of scores of thousands of CIO maritime workers. He threatens to use the Army, the Navy and the Coast Guard to break a strike voted as a last resort when shipowners bluntly refuse even to listen to their employees' representatives.

While this is going on, a coalition of reactionary Republicans and polltax Democrats unites to tear the guts out of price control in both Houses and Senate, in an attempt to take away the benefits of wage gains won by CIO workers, including many thousands from our own union, on the picket line.

Also at the same time, President Truman's appointed officials in charge of OPA give the profiteers enormous price increases without waiting for the end of price control by legislation.

What would Truman's proposed bill do?

As he wrote it, and as presented to Congress, the bill would permit Truman to draft workers into the armed forces to break a strike. It would deprive workers of their seniority rights. It would revive the old system of using Federal courts to break strikes by injunctions. It would deprive workers who refused to act as strike-breakers of their rights under the Wagner Act.

Truman's act in breaking the railroad strike and in sponsoring his bill came as a thunderclap to many people. Actually, it is a climax to a whole series of acts—and failures to act—since the death of Roosevelt.

The failure of Truman and of

(Continued on Page 2)

Inside the paddy-wagon but far from downhearted, these four FTA-CIO cannery-drive leaders watch the company-serving Sacramento, California police as they arrest another FTA leader for the "crime" of fighting the deal between the AFL Teamsters and the cannery bosses designed to keep FTA out of the canneries. Left (with white hat) is Phillip Rau, member of FTA Local 76, Sacramento; (center) Mark Froehlich, veteran cannery worker and California State CIO vice-president; Josephine Froelich, his wife and secretary of Local 76 and Pat Verble, FTA representative.

"Operation OPA"

While labor has been fighting for its life against the Case and Truman bills, another atomic bomb is being readied to blow our wages and our living standards into smithereens.

This is "Operation OPA" in the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency, where a coalition of Republicans and tory Democrats have been tearing what's left of the heart out of price control.

The OPA renewal bill, as reported by this majority in the committee, ends all price controls on meat, poultry and dairy products by June 30, this year. It effectively wipes out price control on a long list of metal goods by cancelling OPA's program of cost-absorption.

Total increase in the cost of living that will result from this wrecking job has been estimated at around $8,000,000,000 — eight billion — a year for the American people.

If the bill is voted as reported, wire President Truman to veto it, urge him to go before a joint House-Senate session to demand a workable, practical bill that will make some contribution to holding down the cost of living.

Night Riders

Not all the night riders are in the Ku Klux Klan. We have 'em in Congress too, and right now they're preparing for a lynching party aimed directly at FTA and the Wagner Act and ultimately at the entire labor movement.

This lynching party is the rider (amendment) that anti-union Congressmen, spark-plugged by food growers in California, are trying to tie onto the appropriation bill for the Natl. Labor Relations Board.

The rider does its dirty work by defining workers in fruit and vegetable packing houses, dried fruit processing workers, workers in cotton gins, etc., as "agricultural workers" and then by denying the NLRB the right to use its funds in cases involving such workers.

Workers in FTA unions organized in these industries will be hit first, if the rider passes. After that comes the turn of other workers in our jurisdiction, eventually all workers.

The night riders are out after the Wagner Act. Wire your Representative and your Senators, tell them: Hands Off The Wagner Act! No Night Riders In Congress!

Truman Breaks With F.D.R.

(Continued from Page 1)

the Democratic leadership in Congress to do anything effective toward carrying out the legacy of FDR's program is part of this record.

The constant appeasement of the reactionary Republican-tory Democrat coalition on such issues as the 65c wage bill, FEPC, polltax repeal, full employment, national health, etc., is glaringly evident.

Who has profited by this inaction? Who stands to gain by having Truman and the Democrats cripple the labor movement?

Those Who Profit

First, of course, the big monopoly employers. They see the crack-down on labor, the crippling of price control, the abandonment of FDR's program as the way to super-profits for themselves.

They think—and their agents in Congress try to make the country think—that this can be done without running into an inflation and an economic crash. They do not think at all of the cost in human misery to the workers.

Second, the big monopoly employers hope to profit by this policy in extending their power and influence over the entire world. They see in a policy of suppression of democratic rights at home and of "big stick" diplomacy abroad a chance to entrench themselves as the lords and masters of the entire earth.

Again, they and their agents in Congress gamble that this can be done without plunging this country and the world into the horrors of a new world war. Again, they care nothing for the suffering and death such a war would bring.

Who profits politically if Truman and the tories among the Democrats in Congress persist in this course?

The political profit will not come to Truman and the Democratic Party that came to power 14 years ago. It can only come to the reactionary Republicans and their masters who plunged the country into misery in 1929.

GOP Dreams

Republicans of the stripe of Taft, Dewey, Hoover—and even the "liberals" like Stassen — dream of coming back to power on the strength of a wave of revulsion against Truman's present policies.

That is why some of them oppose the Truman bill — while voting for the even more repressive Case bill—and that is why a Republican "liberal" like Stassen denounces Truman in the newspapers.

But workers know that the GOP has its own anti-union, profascist plans in the event it is returned to power. They know that Taft, Dewey, Stassen and Co. are even more eager to serve big business than the present leadership of the Democrats.

Must Fight Now

That is why workers must fight now as never before to return the country to the course charted by FDR, the course of world unity and peace, of economic security and freedom at home.

Such a program requires more political action than even 1944 required. It requires the election of every decent candidate now running for office in '46. It requires an active search for decent candidates in greater number in 1948.

With that, we must strengthen the hands of the progressives in Congress who have consistently fought for labor and the national welfare, especially those who stood up and were counted against the Truman and the Case bills.

This includes support for such men as Sen. Claude A. Pepper (D. Fla.), Sen. James A. Murray (D. Mont.), Reps. William Green (D. Pa.), Charles Savage (D. Wash.), Hugh De Lacy (D. Wash.), Vito Marcantonio (ALP. N. Y.) and others who voted and fought against the Truman bill.

Consistent Record

It also includes a larger number who voted and fought against the Case bill in both House and Senate. These men, whatever their political affiliation must be supported—on the basis of a consistent record against anti-union legislation, not on the basis of one vote.

We must not be tricked by the demagogy of a Taft or a Clara Luce or a Stassen, in or out of Congress. Such people, we know, oppose the current anti-union drive only because they disagree on methods, not on principle.

Our program requires the greatest possible volume of letters, wires, visits to Congressmen and to Truman to get them off the reactionary path and onto the path we voted for in 1944.

Democratic and Republican politicians alike must hear from farmers, professionals, if we are to make our will prevail against the will of big monopoly employers.

This is no job for CIO alone. It is a job for all workers, all citizens who cherish freedom and hate reaction.

Only by conscious, independent political action can we put the nation back on the road to progress.

Only in this way can we remove the road-blocks put in our path by Truman and by reactionaries of both Democratic and Republican stripe.

FTA news

Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union of America — CIO

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It takes 500 pounds of police beef to hustle FTA's 130-pound Pat Verble to a Black Maria in Sacramento, Calif., where 1,200 FTA workers were protesting a lockout. State police were bossed by F. S. Clough, agent for California Processors and Growers.

Police brutality is used on California State CIO vice-president Mark Froelich as the company-controlled state cops obey orders to break up FTA's picket line in front of the Sacramento Libby cannery. Froehlich, his wife, and organizer Pat Verble were all taken to jail, where Miss Verble was slapped and kicked by a high police official. Women onlookers are all FTA members.

FTA Fights Stall On Cannery Pay

Clear proof of the phoney intentions of the California Processors and Growers in giving cannery workers a wage "increase" some weeks ago was furnished [illegible] Council meeting this week in Sunnyvale, Cal.

The proof came in the Council's expose of the fact that the "increase," given through CP&G's stooge, the AFL Teamsters, hasn't been paid yet—and in the Council's protest against the delay.

The FTA protest was further proof of the Council's interest in seeing that the workers get all the breaks coming to them, even though "FTA has the right to ask the Wage Stabilization Board to refuse to consider" the raises because the Teamsters have not been designated bargaining agent for the workers.

The Council made the protest, it said, "so no new excuse for delay may be given the cannery managements or the Teamsters officials."

First application came to the Wage Stabilization Board June 10, in the form of a request for approval of the increase from the Turlock Cooperative Growers, to be used as a basis for possible OPA permission to raise prices of canned goods.

The Council's message pointed out at the same time that this and similar applications to the Board were "wholly unnecessary to putting the promised increase into effect right away."

"Weeks ago, increases in cannery wage and pay rates were announced publicly by officials of the California Processors and Growers, Inc., representing more than 60 plants, and by officials of the AFL Teamsters cannery union, which CP&G is trying to install as bargaining representative for its employes," the Council said.

"Not one plant has yet put into effect any of these increases—inadequate and long overdue as they are. This delay daily defrauds thousands of cannery workers, because many gains cannot be computed and paid retroactively.

"The FTA Cannery Council demands that all these gains be put into effect right now. We also demand that CP&G publicly refute a lie being circulated by the Teamsters—namely, the lie that the gains are delayed by the court action brought against CP&G and its Teamster handymen by the Natl. Labor Relations Board."

(This action was brought by the NLRB in a belated attempt to enforce its original order, which said that neither the Teamsters nor the FTA should be considered as exclusive bargaining agencies until the election this summer decides between them. The CP&G has flouted this order by granting a backdoor contract to the Teamsters, in an endeavor to freeze FTA out of the picture.)

"FTA's fight won these gains in the first place," the Council pointed out. "FTA will use every effort to see that they go into the workers' pockets, not remain on paper.

"We serve notice that when FTA-CIO has won the industry-wide election which NLRB is pledged to hold in the canneries this year, late in August or nearly in September, we'll fight for FTA's full program of additional wage gains, including the 18.5c raise instead of the present 8.5c.

"We warn all cannery workers that CP&G canneries have been deliberately delaying at their expense—by withholding the gains and slowly, one by one, filling applications for the wholly unnecessary approval of the Wage Stabilization Board.

"FTA-CIO represents cannery workers; the Teamsters union is in the canneries today only as management's agent. Cannery workers' interests call for immediate payment of wage gains.

"Only management's anti-union aims are responsible for the unnecessary delay. It must come to an end, now!"

Supported by union brothers from the Intl. Longshoremen and Warehousemen and the Brewery Workers, these FTA men and women picket the Libby plant in Sacramento. Libby's locked them out in attempt to force them to give up FTA, stick to AFL Teamsters who have a backdoor agreement with the employers in violation of a Natl. Labor Relations Board order.

FTA Charges Upheld

Unfair labor practice charges brought by FTA against the big Hume cannery in Turlock, Calif., have been upheld by the findings of Natl. Labor Relations Board Trial Examiner Howard Myers.

The Hume cannery is the first outfit to be found guilty that is also a member of California Processors and Growers, the employers' association now using the AFL Teamsters in an attempt to block FTA organization.

NLRB Examiner Myers found that Hume had discriminated in the firing or in failing to hire some 30 workers, and his report calls for the company to reinstate 17 workers with back pay and make up lost pay to 10 others.

If the Washington office of the Board OK's Myers' report, Hume and Co. will be ordered to post a notice saying the company "will not encourage membership in the AFL Teamsters union, or in any other labor organization . . . through dischages or by refusal to reinstate any employe or through any other form of discrimination in regard to hire or tenure of employment."

The company will be also ordered to declare publicly that "all our employes are free to become or to remain" members of FTA, and that "we will not discriminate in regard to hire or tenure of employment against any employe because of membership or activity on behalf of any such labor organization."

AID WORKERS WELFARE

Meanwhile, FTA moved on another front to win additional gains for California cannery workers, by appearing with the state CIO Council and the CIO Longshoremens and Warehousemen Union to fight for a higher minimum wage in the industry.

FTA and CIO are demanding a substantial raise in the state Industrial Welfare Commission's minimum wage order for the canning and preserving industry. Here is what they're asking:

Minimum hourly wage of 85c; time and a half over eight and up to 10 hours, with double time after 10 and overtime pay after 40 hours in any work week; call-in, stand-by and waiting time to be paid; not more than 48 hours a week for women and minors, and other improvements.

These are two of the reasons why FTA-CIO is going to win its election when it is set by the NLRB.

Win 15% Raise In Melon Rates

By Dixie Tiller
International Vice-President

Wage negotiations on melons between Local 78 and some 140 shippers in California and Arizona brought increases of one-half cent per crate for packing and a general 15 per cent increase in hourly and piece-work rates for all other classifications.

The new wage scale which is part of a uniform agreement covers over 4,000 melon workers and brings minimum rates for melons up to $1.00 an hour.

For the first time in Imperial Valley and Yuma, melon workers won time-and-one-half pay for Sunday and holiday work.

Members of the Local 78 negotiating committee were Brothers Joyce and Weatherly.

Strike Threats Get 16c, Quick

By Albert O'Brien

Exposing management's maneuver of conditioning a wage increase on Wage Stabilization Board approval, Local 309 last week fought for and won the full 16c an hour increase agreed to last April by Penick and Ford, Harvey, La., syrup manufacturers. Back pay checks just received averaged over $65 each.

On May 25th the Eighth Regional WSB approved only 10c of the 16c across the board increase. At a meeting with the union, the company said they were sorry but they had done "all they could to get the full increase for the workers. Company representative Greer went into a long and unconvincing story about how the company would agree to pay the 10c and appeal the Board's decision. Then, if approved, they would pay the additional six cents.

Negotiating committee members called the company's bluff by pointing to the Board Order which specified that "a wage increase which is not approved is nevertheless lawful and may be effected or continued in effect notwithstanding lack of Board approval. Lack of approval of the wage increase, or any part thereof, means however, that such increase to the extent not approved, may not be used . . . as a basis for price relief . . . "

Threaten Strike

A special union meeting was called where the workers expressed anger that a giant corporation like Penick and Ford should have the gall to ask them to take a six cents loss. They threatened strike if the full increase did not come through.

Five minutes before the strike deadline Greer called the union and announced: "I am putting bulletins around agreeing to the 16c retroactive to April 4th. I hope you're satisfied."

Negotiating committee members Bob Blanchard, Walter Williams, Marie Bernard, Burbank Richard and Emile Bouvier, were thanked by the membership for the excellent job they did.

Local 309 is now moving to squelch a Christian-American sponsored "right to work" bill in the Louisiana State Legislature. A delegation went to Baton Rouge to lobby against it.

Delegates President Gros, Vice-President Blanchard and chief shop steward Richoux met with State Repreesntative Beeson of their district and he pledged a fight to stop passage of the bill.

Calling on their Congressmen to tell what they think about Truman's slave labor plans, this Philadelphia delegation was pictured in Rep. William Green's (D. Pa.) office. Green voted against the Truman bill. Third from left is Mabel Spotswood, fourth from left Anna Schmolze, both of Local 186. At Rep. Green's desk is Connie Anderson, FTA's education director. Sen. Myers (D. Pa.) told delegation he'd vote against Truman bill if coal strike was settled. The strike was settled but Myers voted for the bill anyway, despite solemn promise.

FTA Locals Lash Out At Truman Strike-Breaking

Sharp letters and wires of condemnation from FTA members flooded Washington following Truman's introduction of anti-labor legislation in Congress on Saturday, May 25th.

Chicago, Ill.

Local 194, in a special edition of its newspaper, called on its members "to answer government strike-breaking by all-out political action."

"Under President Truman our government is now engaged in strike-breaking," the paper said. "There is nothing else to call it when the President of the United States breaks off negotiations with the Railroad Brotherhoods, calls out the troops against the workers, and appears before a joint session of Congress asking for the most high-handed, dictatorial, fascist-like measures ever imposed against labor in this country."

A message from Local 194 officers called the measure "the Hitler pattern in smashing the labor unions," and urged a flood of telegrams from Campbell Soup workers.

Charleston, S.C.

An editorial in the Local 15 newspaper, "FTA Vanguard," pointed out that "for months Truman has been weak-kneed in the face of the big business drive against the people. But he threw aside all tricks. Truman, who was elected as a running mate of Franklin D. Roosevelt, turned his back on the workers and the people.

"Truman used the threat of the U. S. Army to force the railroad workers to work on terms that suited the bosses. Now the workers know. The only answer is greater unity of all labor, and organized political action on a scale that this country never dreamed of. . . . Let these politicians hear the voice of labor now. Let them feel the wrath of labor at the next election."

Local 15 went on record condemning Truman's bill and brought the matter to the Charlestown PAC which took similar action.

In a letter to Truman, President Reul Stanfield said: "We do not believe that you should use the office of President to [illegible] You were elected as a co-partner of Franklin D. Roosevelt and pledged to help carry out the program that he died fighting for. We feel that you have completely deserted the Roosevelt program and have deceived the people of America."

Philadelphia, Pa.

Members of Local 186 told Truman: "we remember when you said that to fill the President's shoes would be a hard task, but that you would do all in your power to carry out Roosevelt's policies."

Local 48 Gets Raises, Union Shop At Kraft

By Elsie Overshiner
Financial Secretary, Local 48

Wage increases retroactive to May 1 were won by Local 48 for workers at the Kraft Foods Co., Summitville, Ind., in a union shop contract signed recently.

Minimum wage for the lower bracket was brought up to 75c an hour, and up to 81c an hour for the higher bracket by the new improved wage scale. Other wage gains included a three cent an hour increase for night bonus, and double-time pay for the seventh day of work. Retroactive pay will average $20 to $35 per worker.

Two weeks' vacation with pay was won for employes of more than three years, and one week with pay for less than three years. In addition, the new contract provides for check-off of dues; good grievance procedure and an improved transfer set-up.

Local 48 members were well pleased with the final settlement after they had rejected the company's original offer of a seven cent an hour increase.

Members of the negotiating committee were Fred Briley, President, John Owens, Melvin Reed and Elsie Overshiner, assisted by International Organizer Kenneth Hirschy.

Eastern School July 7-13

Eastern FTA Leadership Training School will be July 7-13 at Eidsvold, Norwegian Seamen's Home, at Katonah, N.Y. Delegates from locals in Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York will attend.

Information on subject matter and costs has been sent to all locals concerned, with the recommendation they send "at least one officer who has not previously had the opportunity to spend a week at an FTA Leadership Training School." Larger locals will send several active people, including the chief shop steward or chairman of the grievance committee.

'No Fascism' Is Demand Of Local 186 Delegates

By Mabel Spotswood, Reporter

On May 28, Local 186 sent a delegation to Washington to lobby against the Truman bill and the Case bill.

Along with representatives of other CIO unions from Philadelphia we spoke for 50,000 workers who were alarmed and shocked to see the Administration taking the lead in reactionary legislation which would mean disaster to American democracy.

We let our Congressmen and Senators know that we didn't want fascism, but our fundamental rights as citizens.

Members of the FTA delegation were Connie Anderson, Anna Schmolze, C. W. Fowler and Mabel Spotswood. Other organizations represented were the Transport Workers Union, National Maritime Union, United Electrical Workers, American Youth for Democracy, Fur and Leather Workers, and Office and Professional Workers.

The delegates came back and helped to organize a PAC campaign to re-elect Congressman William Green, the only Philadelphia Congressman to vote against the Truman bill.

'I'll Vote It Down Again'

Here's the way Congressman Wm. Granahan of Philadelphia put it when he told an FTA delegation that he vould vote against the Truman slave labor bill when it came back from the Senate:

"I walked on the American Tobacco picket line for FTA . . . and I'll vote against the Truman bill in whatever form it comes back from the Senate."

Granahan picketed with FTA members during the six months long strike at American Tobacco. He had CIO and FTA support in his election in 1944.

Originally, Granahan voted for the bill. This statement was made as a result of a visit from two Local 186 members, plus other CIO people, to Granahan in Washington.

16c Total At Liebman

Total increases since V-J Day reached 16c an hour for workers at the Liebman Packing Co. in Milwaukee, Wis. Local 21 recently signed a new agreement there winning a nine cents an hour general increase and including a wage re-opening clause.

Members of the negotiating committee were Ed DeKeyser, Pres.; Tom Malewski; and Tony Charniak, according to Regional Director Harry Virgil.

New Officers

Local 281 in Detroit, Mich., recently held a special meeting to elect officers to fill vacancies. Josephine Kujawa was elected to fill the post of Vice-Chairman in the absence of Kathryn Bennett who is seriously ill.

Anne Pelkey was elected Trustee; Pauline Schmidt, Reporter; and Stephanie Kalinowski, Sgt.-at-Arms.

The Local recently won a new contract with the Webster Tobacco Co.

By Pauline Schmidt, Reporter

178 Newly elected officers of Local 178 in Traverse City, Mich., are: Eugene Rowe, Pres.; Gladys Bellows, Vice-Pres.; Mildred Piette, Rec. Secy.; Otto Carpenter, Fin. Secy.; Fred Pfeiffer, Sgt.-at-Arms; Orville Snyder, Door Guard; Roy Everson, Viva Ashmore and Mildred Piette, Trustees.

Inflation Due If Senate Kills OPA

Why Not Now?

When President Truman wanted a union-busting bill in a hurry, he called a joint session of House and Senate to get it. Ordinarily, they meet separately, but in a "crisis" they meet together.

The strike "crisis" Truman used as his excuse for an anti-union law was a phoney. Now there's a genuine crisis before the country—the crisis of price control.

As a matter of fact, this crisis has been with us since the House passed its version of an OPA wrecking bill several weeks ago. President Truman is aware of this. He also knows what the Senate bill will do to living standards, if it becomes law.

Truman could call a joint session when he had a phoney "strike crisis" on his hands. Why hasn't he done the same for a genuine crisis, a crisis involving the welfare of all the American people?

Maybe it's because we haven't asked him?

The OPA renewal bill as reported by the Senate Banking Committee and passed by the House "is an open invitation to inflation and economic disaster," President Henderson warned this week in a statement and in wires to FTA locals.

The warning came as the Senate was set to take up the bill on the floor, and as FTA News went to press. Under the extension act as reported, controls end this month on meat, dairy products and poultry, with similar slashes in controls over manufactured products.

"Abandonment of price control, as recommended by the Senate Committee and enacted by the House, would rob the workers of wage gains made in recent months and force them to seek higher wage increases immediately," Henderson said.

"If the Senate passes the bill as amended, President Truman must veto it and call Congress into joint session for the purpose of renewing the act for one year without amendments of any kind.

"He would have the complete support in this of everyone except the profiteers and their stick-up men masquerading as Congressmen and Senators."

In a wire to locals and regional directors, Henderson said that the bill in its present form would "double the cost of living, wipe out all recent wage gains and set off a wild inflation leading to an economic crash worse than anything ever seen before.

"All workers, veterans, professional workers, housewives, merchants are threatened with a drastic lowering of living standards," he added.

"The bill is part of a drive to slash the living standards of all Americans and must be fought as vigorously as we fight anti-union bills."

Henderson's wire urged immediate action while the Senate is debating the OPA extension act. If the Senate passes the bill with the crippling amendments in it, action will shift to the White House.

Letters and wires should then be sent to President Truman urging him to veto the bill and to go before Congress in a joint session to demand price control renewal for one year, without amendments of any kind.

Charles Bramer, 69 years old June 12th, retired after working 16 years and seven months at Chicago Campbell Soup. "Charlie," a 100% union man all his life, will be missed in Local 194. An efficient worker up to the day of his retirement, Campbell's has pensioned him off on the magnificent sum of $6.21 a week.

Local 273 Launches New York FTA Drive

An all-out campaign to organize the unorganized in the food industry in New York City and to clean up the remaining unorganized tobacco shops was mapped out at a meeting of Local 273 on June 4.

The meeting attended by the local's shop committees, officers and executive board adopted a plan based on reports by Secretary-Treasurer Ralph Garcia and Business Agent Severino Martinez. The plan called for the appropriation of funds and approval of the executive board's recommendation of assigning Sam Nesin, veteran trade unionist, as general organizer to direct the drive in the food industry.

An organization committee of 40 members was elected to cooperate with the officers in carrying out the organizing program.

Great enthusiasm was expressed for the plan outlined. Those present pledged to put into life the slogan that every union shop shall organize their neighboring non-union food or tobacco shop.

The organizing drive has received the full approval of International Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane and Regional Director Armando Ramirez.

Latest NLRB Ballot Wins

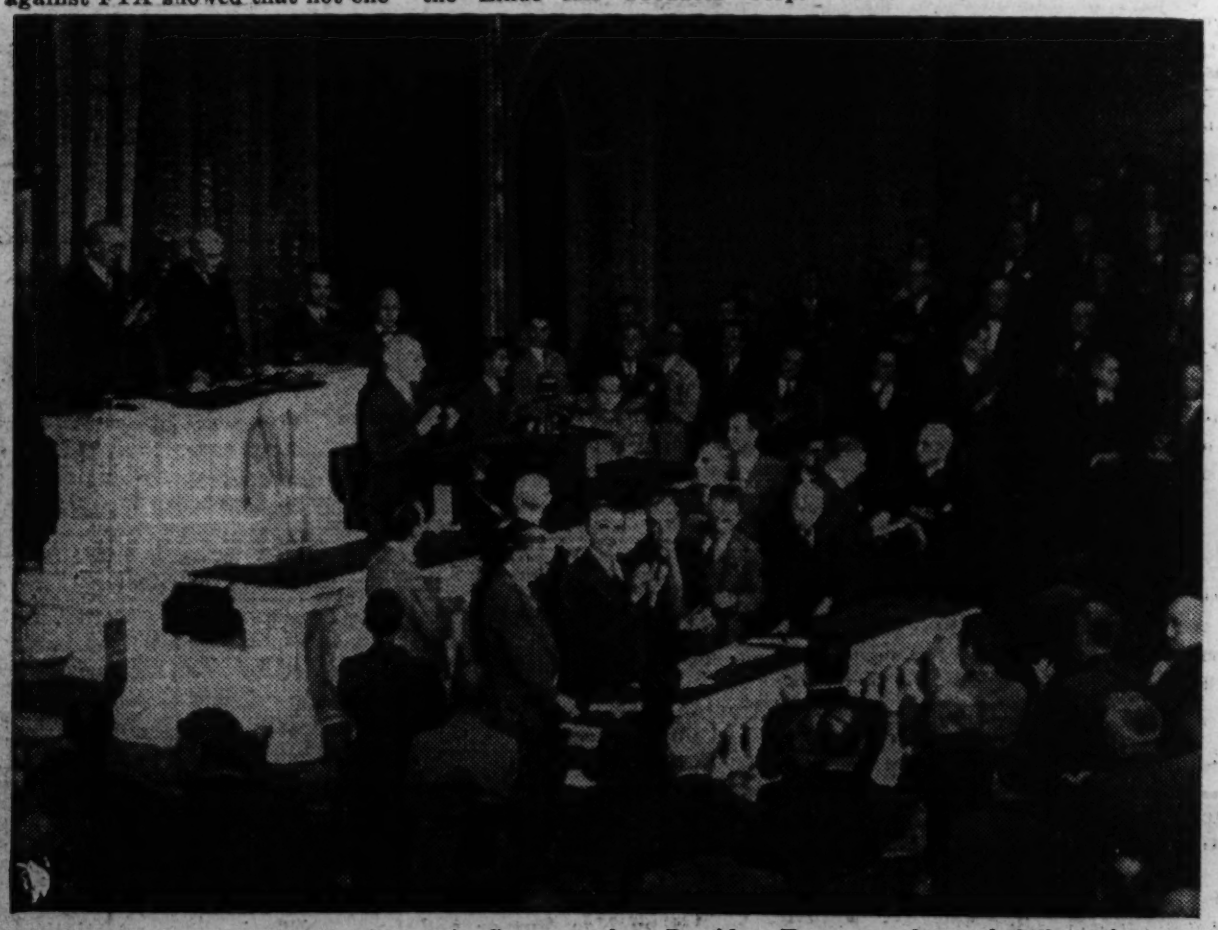
Recent NLRB election returns chalked up the following victories for FTA:

At the U.S. Industrial Chemi- [illegible], Calif., last week, FTA won by a vote of 13 to 10 for AFL and two for no union. FTA came out on top in the nip and tuck race with the AFL Chemical Workers Union.

Local 186 in Philadelphia, Pa., won a consent election at the Harry Rubin Co., rope and knit-goods firm, by a 33 to nothing vote. A company maneuver to defeat the union was unmasked by the unanimous vote. The night before each worker got a letter from an "Independent Workers Association." However, the absence of a single vote against FTA showed that not one of the workers supported the phony outfit.

Newly-chartered Local 42 in Miami, Fla., won an election at the Linde Air Products Corp. there by a vote of 12 to nothing.

In Memphis, Tenn., Local 19 won an election at the International Sugar Feed Mill by 31 to four.



Here the tories and the labor-haters in Congress cheer President Truman as he reads bill putting new shackles on unions. Bill went through the House in 40 minutes, without debate. Railroad strike hysteria, promoted by Truman, was excuse used to rush it through.

Local 115 Wins 18½c At Quaker

By Brownie Amborski, President, Local 115

Solidarity of FTA Quaker Oats locals behind Local 115 resulted in the victorious settlement of an eight-week lock-out strike at the Depew, N. Y. Quaker Oats plant.

An 18½c an hour general increase retroactive to January 9; wage reopening clause with wage increases retroactive to the date negotiations start; four hours call-in pay; and maintainance of membership with no escape period were among the major gains won in the strike settlement. Many vicious restrictive clauses proposed by the company were rejected.

The Quaker Oats Co. strategy was to weaken the union in Depew in order to beat down wages at the other Quaker Oats plants. But their scheme failed in the face of the high morale of Local 115 members and their solidarity with other FTA Quaker Oats locals.

Join FTA Council

At the membership meeting following the strike settlement, the local voted to join the FTA Joint Quaker Oats Council. They elected their president Brownie Amborski as a delegate to the Council which now includes Locals 110, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; 120, Akron, Ohio; and 125, St. Joseph, Mo.

Determined not to be cheated of their gains on the picket line by reactionary anti-labor forces in government, the local voted unanimously for 100% payment of $1 per member to PAC.

Contributions to the Local 115 strike relief fund came from the FTA National Office — $250; Local 56, Trenton, N. J. — $50; Greater Buffalo Industrial Union Council, Local 120 and Local 125 —$100 each.

Members of the negotiating committee included Brownie Amborski, Pres; Robert Williams, Chairman; Adeline Fisher; Rosella Leininger; Lester Fowler and Celia Ortman. They were assisted by J. J. Lovas, CIO Field Representative and Int. Org. Samuel Shachter.

Fan Mail From A GI

FTA's food program proposals to President Truman which appeared in the overseas edition of Stars and Stripes, received hearty approval from the GI's stationed in Europe.

In a letter which reached here this week, Cpl. Russell Loppacher, stationed in Germany said "You seem to be speaking for seven out of 10 soldiers in the E. T. O. . . . We believe places like France, Greece, Belgium, Holland and Denmark deserve all the help that the rest of the world can give. . . . I and a good many others agree that Herbert Hoover should be removed. . . ."

"I have always been against the CIO, but now I'm beginning to get a different viewpoint of your organization and what you are trying to do for the returning vets. . . . I am also grateful for the CIO getting after Congress."

Up Wages By 18.5c

An additional two and one-half cents increase won by Local 179 this month brought total wage increases since March up to 18.5c an hour at the Archer-Daniels-Midland grain processing will in Toledo, Ohio, according to Regional Director Armando Valdes.

Sleepless Nights

(taken from the Local 15 newspaper, FTA Vanguard)

Every night millions of workers
all over the world
Sleep worriedly, restlessly, worried, turning,
And dream of days ahead in fear,
Their insecurity blinding, their
brains burning.

Every night they talk of tomorrow
In hope of better days,
In hope of a new world of peace
and work,
A new life, food, clothing, shelter,
a raise.

Every night the hours slowly
pass,
And they wonder, hesitate, look
to the stars
But find nothing there in the
darkness
To let down their prison bars.

And every night more millions
sleep,
But theirs is a fighting slumber,
For tomorrow they will awaken
And work to add to their number.

Organize! they tell the sleepless
ones.
Unite with us and you will know
The benefits that come
When you belong to the CIO.

from Fur & Leather Worker

How To Stand Still Backwards

Remember Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass, where everything was backwards? Remember how Alice and the White Knight had to run like mad in order to stand still and how they ran furiously forward in order to arrive at the place they'd already been?

It makes you think of the food policies of the Truman administration, and especially of Mr. Truman's Secretary of Agriculture, Clinton P. Anderson.

Millions of people in Europe, Asia and Africa are starving. They need immediately big supplies of bread grains, oils, meat, fish and other foods. Shipments now will save them, ease them through a crisis, says Anderson, that will be over in "90 days."

So what does the government propose to do? Rush all available supplies by quickest boat? No, the government proposes to "borrow" stocks of wheat from relief supplies waiting shipment to ease the bread shortage here. After two or three months, they're to be returned to relief. Meanwhile, famine victims presumably live on our I.O.U. for the grain.

Europe, Asia and Africa also need protein foods, meat, fish, etc. So the government is importing fish from Europe—8,000,000 pounds of it this year from Spain and Portugal, more millions from Norway and other countries.

Does this make you feel a little dizzy? Try a breath of fresh air and read on. While we import fish, our fishermen on the west coast are told the buyers won't take more than 10 percent of their catch. Franco's enslaved workers fish cheaper than we do.

On top of that, the U. S. has 83,000,000 pounds of frozen fish in storage, more than twice what we had last year.

Now that you know how Alice felt when she stepped through the looking glass, you might wonder why this strange performance on the part of the government.

The answer is profits. More profits can be made by selling a short-weight loaf of bread at an increased price in the U. S. than can be made supplying grain to starving people in Europe, Asia and Africa.

More profits can be made hoarding fish here in anticipation of the end of price control than can be made saving the lives of men, women and children.

Alice in Wonderland was sometimes a little bewildered. So might we be—if we forget how the profit system works.

Truman Bill Aims At Fascism, War III—FTA

Truman's anti-union bill (HR 6578) is aimed at destroying the labor movement as a prelude to World War III, FTA President Donald Henderson said this week in a statement issued from Washington.

"The anti-union bill demanded by President Truman is a long step toward fascist destruction of unions. It imposes the same kind of penalities on striking workers that were used in Nazi Germany, and it seeks to achieve the same ends that Hitler had when he destroyed the German labor movement.

"Destruction of the free trade union movement in this country is sought by the Truman Administration in order to suppress the rights of all the people of this country and to lead us into World War III.

"The American people must unite against this vicious scheme. Political action by all branches of organized labor, together with their allies among the farmers and among progressives of all occupations must be intensified.

"We demand the defeat of the Truman plan to destroy trade unions and the defeat of its Republican counterpart, the Case bill."

Support Maritime Men

FTA support for the CIO maritime workers in their possible strike set for June 15 as FTA News went to press was assured in a wire from President Henderson and Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane this week to Joe Curran and Harry Bridges, co-chairmen of the Committee for Maritime Unity.

"CIO maritime workers gave 6,000 lives to their country in the war against fascism," the wire said. "Is it too much to ask that they now be paid a living wage? FTA-CIO joins you in urging the government to bring about a fair settlement of the dispute and to refrain from all further moves on the side of the shipowners."

Dues Workers' Weapon—Lane

"Finances must be viewed as a real weapon in the hands of the workers," said Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane in a letter to financial secretaries this week. ". . . It is our job and our responsibility to see to it that lack of finances will never be the reason for the local or the international not carrying out its responsibilities to the workers. . . .

"Sometimes local officers and organizers shy away from the question of money . . . and in this manner they jeopardize the work of the organization and the interests of the workers. . . . I have never yet seen a group of workers turn down a constructive program in which certain additional financial obligations were involved in order to make the program workable."

The basic reasons why FTA members pay dues, initiation, permit and reinstatement fees, he pointed out, are:

"To build the organization and to organize the unorganized. While a labor union has certain very healthy social and recreational aspects, nevertheless, in the main, it is a group of workers banded together in one body dedicated to improving the wages, hours and [illegible] and social [illegible] ing class.

Takes Money

"It takes money to run any organization. The amount of dues charged are based on how much it costs to properly operate the local and carry on all the functions of a labor organization."

Lane cit d Article 12 of the consitution, which calls for a $5 initiation fee where a local has a union shop, closed shop of preferential shop. Fifty percent of the fee goes to the national office.

It also makes mandatory the payment of full employed dues to the local by workers employed 40 hours or more. Where a worker is totally unemployed for the month, the local must charge either full employed dues or unemployed dues.

Franco Cheers Truman

Spanish Dictator Franco, through his Fascist-controlled radio, gave his hearty approval to President Truman's smashing of the railroad strike and his "draft labor" bill this week and declared that the U. S. President had "applied that pure doctrine which the calumnied Spanish state professes," Allied Labor News reports from London.

"Mr. Truman aided by the House of Representatives," the broadcast said, "has just rendered to the pure doctrine of public liberties, the most beautiful and fruitful service."

"Some professional agitators at the head of the labor classes who had knocked down their people shouted: 'It is the right to strike which we are exercising in the country of liberty and of the rights of man.' Mr. Truman showed them how to treat lberty and how to serve it," the broadcast stated.

Likes "Severity"

The commentator gloated that "Mr. Truman, as President of the United States, as ruler of a great people and free citizens, has given a lesson of civism, of fortitude, of incorruptible severity."

He pointed out that on May 14, Franco had made a speech at the Spanish Cortes in which he said that the modern state cannot afford to tolerate strikes.

HERE ARE YOUR FACTS

On Pay Raises

By JOSEPH CALIFF, Research Director

(Continued from June 1)

(In this issue, Research Director Califf concludes his discussion of wage increases as affected by the Wage Stabilization Board.)

If your wage increase is conditioned upon "approval" by the Wage Stabilization Board, you may be stuck with whatever amount the WSB approves, even though it is entirely legal for the company to pay the full amount of the increase agreed upon.

Agreements should therefore contain some such statement as this:

"The wage increase herein provided shall be put into effect, retroactive to ....., upon action by the Wage Stabilization Board."

The important part of this sentence is the word "action", since it means that the company must pay the full increase as soon as the Board acts on the agreement, whatever that action is.

One Little Word

This one word, "action", assures that you will receive the full amount of your wage increase.

Several FTA locals have made the mistake of signing agreements making their wage increases subject to approval by the Wage Stabilization Board. Now WSB has approved only part of the increase and they are having trouble getting the full amount of the raise paid.

With the FTA wage drive now rolling in high gear, it is important that other locals do not make the same error.

Nothing can justify an employer's paying less than the full amount of wage increase agreed upon. The war is over, and both the law and Government policy call for settlement of labor-management issues through collective bargaining.

Therefore, whatever increases the parties agree to in negotiations are fair and must be paid in full.

Whether the employer gets higher prices is entirely a matter between himself and the OPA. The most a union can be expected to do is to sign the WSB Form 10 application which permits the employer to seek approval of the raise for price relief purposes.

Under no circumstances should a union agree to be limited by the ruling of WSB on the application. To do so means in effect that the union is supporting the employer's demand for higher prices. Such action is contrary to FTA policy.

Laurel, Del. Drive Set For Election Victory

By Charles Coburn, Jr.

The current organizing drive at the Marvil Package Co., in Laurel, Del., is now pounding down the "home stretch" to an election scheduled by the Nat'l Labor Relations Board for June 26th. Over 150 workers are involved.

Organizing meetings are held at Mount Pisgah Church at the invitation of the pastor, Rev. Lee. "Any advance in the working and living conditions of the working people is an advance for the whole community," said Rev. Lee when he invited the union to meet at his church.

The organizing committee headed by Noa Turner and Lorain Williams has already signed up enough members to insure an election. Other members of the committee are Ernest Anderson, George Crieton, Oliver Hearn, Sara West, Irene Elzey, William Stuart, Roscoe Harris, George Waller and Inez Waller. They are assisted by International Organizer Charles Coburn.

At the last membership meeting, Brother Lewis of the Wilmington Industrial Union Council pledged the support of the Northern Delaware CIO unions. CIO Regional Director Hodson reviewed the rise and growth of the CIO, stressing the need for industrial organization and political action.

Election of a negotiating committee is scheduled for the next membership meeting.

Truman Bill Analysis

Here, in brief, is what Truman's anti-union bill (HR 6758) is aimed to do to your union and to your wages and living conditions. The analysis is by Lee Pressman, national counsel of the CIO:

The President is empowered:

1. To call upon the employes and the union officers to return to their posts of duty before a day fixed in the proclamation.
2. To then call upon the union and its members to take any affirmative action he deems necessary to terminate the strike and to restore full operation.
3. To establish whatever terms and conditions of employment he thinks proper.

The bill then explicitly states that after the issuance of the President's proclamation the officers of the union are obligated to act as strike-breakers and each individual worker is obligated to return to work whether he wants to or not. In short, it is made illegal for a union officer to refuse to break a strike and for an employe to refuse to return to work.

What happens if either the union officer or the employe insists upon his freedom? Four things may happen to such an individual:

1. He is subject to a fine of $5,000 or imprisonment or both.
2. He is subject to a federal injunction and, in case he refuses to obey the injunction, to punishment for contempt of court. The Norris-LaGuardia Act, which prohibits federal injunctions in labor matters is repealed.
3. He is automatically discharged; he loses his employe status both for purposes of the Wagner Labor Relations Act and the Railway Labor Act, and his seniority is wiped out.
4. He may be drafted on whatever terms and conditions the President sees fit to serve in the Army and is subject to military command to perform the work which he refused to do as acivilian. If he refuses to obey military command, he is then subject to the pains and penalties of court martial.

This is the essence of the President's bill. It is also the essence of human slavery.

FTA Brings Pay Raises Up To 33%

By Glenn Mathews, President Local 113

Local 113 signed its fourth contract with the Kuner-Empson canning company in Longmont, Colo., on May 7 which brought wage increases won over the past three years of organization at the plant up to 33 1/3%.

The increase won in the present contract raises the minimum for men to 75c an hour, and 65c for women.

Union shop for regular employes; seven days a year sick leave; two weeks vacation with pay for all employees working 75% of the year; and six holidays at time-and-a-half pay if worked; were other gains won in the new contract.

After September 20, a 40-hour week goes into effect, with time-and-a-half for overtime and double-time for Sunday work.

Members of the negotiating committee were: Glenn Mathews, Jessie Dunfer, Jennie Pearsons, Emile Knipple and Ed Strong.

Senate Vote On Case Bill

This is the vote on the Case bill (HR 4908) in the Senate. Seven votes are listed, the first six on amendments added to the original House-passed Case bill (see FTA News, March 1), the last one on final passage of the bill itself.

This is what the six amendments do:

1) Ball Amendment I. Provides 60 day "cooling off" before strikes, to enable boss to get ready to break them. Deprives workers who violate it of all seniority rights. Passed, 54 to 26.

2) Taft Amendment I. Adds an extra 35 days to the cooling off in public utilities. Passed, 59 to 19.

3) Ellender Amendment. Deprives all foremen, supervisory employes of rights under the National Labor Relations (Wagner) Act. Passed, 48 to 30.

4) Taft Amendment II. Makes unions suable in Federal courts for "violations of contract." Deprives "violators" of all rights under the Wagner Act. Passed, 50 to 28.

5) Ball Amendment II. Makes secondary boycott by unions illegal; outlaws union unfair list. Passed, 53 to 24.

6) Eastland Amendment. $10,000 fine, 20 years in jail for calling a scab a scab, for picketing and other normal union activities. Passed, 59 to 22.

7) This is the final vote for passage of the bill.

R indicates a vote against the amendments and against the bill. W indicates a vote for the amendments and for the bill. NV means that the Senator did not vote.

	1.) BALL I	2.) TAFT I	3.) ELLENDER	4.) TAFT II	5.) BALL II	6.) EASTLAND 59-22	7.) PASS BILL
ALABAMA							
John H. Bankhead, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
Lister Hill, D	W	W	R	W	R	W	R
ARIZONA							
Carl Hayden, D	W	W	W	R	W	W	R
Ernest McFarland, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
ARKANSAS							
John L. McClellan, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
J. William Fulbright, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
CALIFORNIA							
William F. Knowland, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Sheridan Downey, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	NV
COLORADO							
Edwin C. Johnson, D	R	W	R	W	NV	W	R
Eugene D. Millikin, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
CONNECTICUT							
Thomas C. Hart, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Brien McMahon, D	R	W	R	W	R	W	R
DELAWARE							
James M. Tunnel, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
C. Douglas Buck, R	W	W	W	NV	NV	NV	W
FLORIDA							
Charles O. Andrews, D	W	W	W	NV	W	W	NV
Claude Pepper, D	NV	NV	R	R	R	R	R
GEORGIA							
Walter F. George, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Richard B. Russell, D	W	W	R	W	W	W	W
IDAHO							
Charles C. Gossett, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
Glen Taylor, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
ILLINOIS							
Scott Lucas, D	W	NV	W	R	W	W	W
C. Wayland Brooks, R	NV	W	W	W	W	W	W
INDIANA							
Raymond Willis, R	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
Homer Capehart, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
IOWA							
George A. Wilson, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Bourke Hickenlooper, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
KANSAS							
Arthur Capper, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Clyde M. Reed, R	W	W	NV	W	W	W	W
KENTUCKY							
Alben Barkley, D	R	R	R	R	R	W	R
Wm. A. Stanfill, R	W	NV	W	W	W	W	W
LOUISIANA							
John H. Overton, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	NV
Allen J. Ellender, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
MAINE							
Wallace White, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Owen Brewster, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
MARYLAND							
Millard E. Tydings, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
George L. Radcliffe, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
MASSACHUSETTS							
David L. Walsh, D	R	W	R	R	R	W	NV
Leverett Saltonstall, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
MICHIGAN							
Arthur Vandenberg, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Homer Ferguson, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
MINNESOTA							
Henrik Shipstead, R	W	W	NV	R	NV	R	R
Joseph Ball, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
MISSISSIPPI							
Theodore Bilbo, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
James Eastland, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
MISSOURI							
Forrest C. Donnell, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Frank Briggs, D	R	R	NV	R	R	R	R
MONTANA							
Burton K. Wheeler, D	R	W	R	R	NV	R	R
James E. Murray, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
NEBRASKA							
Hugh Butler, R	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
Kenneth S. Wherry, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
NEVADA							
Pat McCarran, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
E. P. Carville, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
NEW HAMPSHIRE							
Styles Bridges, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Charles W. Tobey, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
NEW JERSEY							
Albert Hawkes, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
H. Alexander Smith, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
NEW MEXICO							
Carl A. Hatch, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Dennis Chavez, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
NEW YORK							
Robert F. Wagner, D.	R	R	R	R	NV	R	R
James M. Mead, D	R	NV	R	R	R	R	R
NORTH CAROLINA							
Josiah W. Bailey, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
Clyde R. Hoey, D	NV	NV	NV	W	W	W	W
NORTH DAKOTA							
William Langer, R	R	W	R	R	R	W	R
OHIO							
Robert A. Taft, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
James W. Huffman, D	W	W	R	W	W	W	W
OKLAHOMA							
Elmer Thomas, D	W	R	R	NV	NV	NV	R
E. H. Moore, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
OREGON							
Guy Cordon, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Wayne L. Morse, R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
PENNSYLVANIA							
Joseph F. Guffey, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Francis J. Myers, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
RHODE ISLAND							
Peter Gerry, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Francis Green, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
SOUTH CAROLINA							
Burnet Maybank, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
Olin D. Johnston, D	W	W	R	W	W	W	W
SOUTH DAKOTA							
Chan Gurney, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
Harlan J. Bushfield, R	W	W	W	NV	W	W	NV
TENNESSEE							
Kenneth McKellar, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
Tom Stewart, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
TEXAS							
Tom Connally, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
W. Lee O'Daniel, D	W	W	W	NV	W	W	W
UTAH							
Elbert D. Thomas, D	R	R	NV	R	R	R	R
Abe Murdock, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
VERMONT							
Warren R. Austin, R.	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
George D. Aiken, R.	R	W	R	R	R	R	R
VIRGINIA							
Carter Glass, D	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV	NV
Harry Byrd, D	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
WASHINGTON							
Hugh B. Mitchell, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Warren G. Magnuson, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
WEST VIRGINIA							
Harley M. Kilgore, D	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Chapman Revercomb, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
WISCONSIN							
Robert M. LaFollette, P	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Alexander Wiley, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W
WYOMING							
Joseph O'Mahoney, D	R	W	R	R	W	W	R
Edward V. Robertson, R	W	W	W	W	W	W	W

This is the story in pictures of an AFL mastermind and how he tried — and failed — to bust up an FTA rally at the Wilkes-Barre plant of the American Tobacco Co. His name is John Taylor, and he works for the AFL Tobacco Workers Union, which in turn, you know, works for the boss. Above, Taylor (center) and an assistant (right) try to scare off FTA Organizer Bill Haber. Haber doesn't scare, so Taylor moves over (right) to where members of Local 56 (Trenton, N. J.) and 186 (Philadelphia) are waiting to start the rally. Woman in center is Olive Cassidy of Local 186.

Above, the assistant mastermind tries out his stuff on two of the Wilkes-Barre girls, who don't seem to go for it. Taylor looks on (right) to see how his helper is making out, seems to be a little discouraged about it all.

Nothing daunted, our hero tries his hand (or should it be lungs) at singing. Idea is to out-sing FTA girls who came up from Trenton and Philadelphia to help the Wilkes-Barre people join FTA. Olive Cassidy (on left) apparently takes pity on him, tosses him a penny. Unfeeling girl next to her, Elsie King, Local 186, just laughs. Local 56 President Lucy Aiello (right) looks on.

And here's the payoff. Taylor bends over to pick up the pennies tossed to him by Local 186. In his left hand he clutches a bouquet of dandelions also presented with the compliments of FTA. Thanks, Mr. Taylor, for proving what FTA members have always known — THE AFL IS ONLY OUT FOR THE WORKERS' MONEY!

'Biggest Raise' Won At Planters

Winning its largest increase in the industry's history, Local 26 clinched a major victory at the Planters Nut and Chocolate Co. in Suffolk, Va., with a 25 percent increase plus other other gains.

An added two cents an hour starts November 1. Plant minimums are up to 60 cents an hour. Before FTA-CIO came into Planters, workers got as little as $5 a week.

In addition, the contract, signed June 10, is retroactive to May 1, giving each worker a back pay gravy check of around $25 to $30 apiece.

Negotiations opened April 10, and strike notice was filed May 13. With the full backing of the FTA national office, plans for the strike were getting into high gear when the company came across with the contract offer.

Planters has had a long history of low wages, and a miserly policy of offering increases of two and three cents an hour as their "best offer."

This time the workers were determined to put an end to that company policy, and as a result of their organization and solidarity, clinched the 25 per cent raise.

Consolidation and solid building of the local was the direct cause of the victory. The local built up its membership to well over 1,500, despite the fact that employment was down due to lay-offs. Planters used lay-offs to intimidate the workers, but they didn't scare. At one time, only 900 were working, but 800 of them were in FTA.

Consolidation and building of the union started some months back, well in advance of the time for negotiating the new contract. Work on this vital job was spurred by a visit from FTA Secretary-Treasurer Harold J. Lane.

Regional Director Frank Green and FTA Vice-President Armando Ramirez helped in the negotiations.

Other important gains in the new contract include improvement in the vacation plan, better seniority protection, and a more effective method of handling grievances.

Planters' workers this time were sure they were through with "peanut pay raises" and organized to tell the company so. As the result, they got the biggest raise that the company was ever forced to hand out.